

Remarks

Applicants make no further amendments to the claims as they firmly believe that the invention as presently claimed is both novel and nonobvious over the prior art cited by the Examiner. Furthermore, applicants maintain the pertinence of their previous responses.

With a view to potential appeal, applicants make the following remarks:

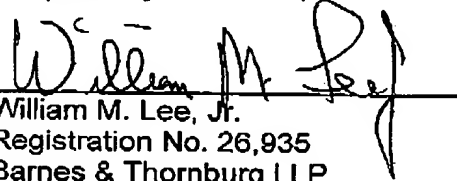
The Examiner has issued an Advisory Action dated September 22, 2005. In this document, that the Examiner has argued 1) "Wong does disclose a unique IP address for a specific individual client called a "learned" IP address" and therefore that the combination of Rekhter and Wong does disclose the claim feature "allocating a unique IP address to a node". This is clearly incorrect since a learned IP address by definition is not to be allocated - it has already been allocated.

The Examiner has also argued that (2) There is sufficient motivation to combine Rekhter and Wong as disclosed in the final Office Action dated 7/15/2005 and also because "both systems utilize routers that track IP address information throughout a network". Applicants simply fail to understand the relevance of the latter remark. Wong is directed to methods and apparatus for allocating and using IP addresses. Rekhter is directed to an arrangement for efficient forwarding of packets and for routing packets in an internetwork. These are clearly not analogous art. Furthermore, to establish a prima facie case of obviousness, the examiner must not only show that there is motivation in the prior art to combine, but that there is a reasonable expectation of success. Applicants have carefully studied the Examiner's Final Office Action dated 7/15/2005 and the latest Advisory Action but can find no statement of motivation in the prior art to combine the references, nor any explanation of why there would be a reasonable expectation of success.

Accordingly, applicants firmly maintain their belief that the present application is patentable over the prior art references cited by the Examiner and look forward to receiving a Notice of Allowance.

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Respectfully submitted,



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